

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00197 010725Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 DOE-11 SOE-02
/117 W

-----112099 011219Z /14

R 311145Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5775
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0197

VALLETTA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PBOR, SO, ET
SUBJ: CONTINUED RELUCTANCE TO DEFINE TERMS OF A NEGOTIATED
SETTLEMENT

REF: MOGADISCIO 0113

SUMMARY: IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS, A GSDR MINISTER AND PRESIDENT
SIAD HIMSELF HAVE SHOWN NO MORE DISPOSITION TO DEFINE ACCEP-
TABLE TERMS FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT THAN WAS APPARENT TWO
WEEKS AGO.

1. DURING A COURTESY CALL ON JAN. 30 TO INTRODUCE AID
MISSION DIRECTOR CAMPBELL TO MINERALS MINISTER HUSSEIN
ABDULKADIR KASSIM, THE CHARGE ASKED ABOUT THE DEMANDS IMPOSED
ON THE MINISTER WHILE WEARING HIS DIPLOMATIC HAT. (THE MINISTER
IS REGULARLY EMPLOYED AS A SPECIAL EMMISSARY BY PRESIDENT SIAD.)
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOGADI 00197 010725Z

KASSIM WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED TO DISCUSS THIS ASPECT OF HIS
RESPONSIBILITIES. HE SAID THAT SIAD'S TRIP TO THE THREE ARAB
CAPITALS, AMMAN, SANA, AND JIDDA WAS VERY USEFUL. HE SAID
THE SOMALI LEADER'S EXPLANATION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE
HORN WAS UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED, ADDING THAT THE GSDR
EXPECTED FIRM SUPPORT FROM THESE BROTHER ARAB NATIONS.

2. WHEN THE CHARGE ATTEMPTED TO GUIDE THE DISCUSSION INTO AN EXAMINATION OF THE SHAPE OF A POSSIBLE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE OGADEN CONFLICT, KASSIM RESPONDED ALONG FAMILIAR LINES, ASSERTING THAT THERE COULD BE NO RETURN TO EVEN A NOMINAL ETHIOPIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE OGADEN UNLESS CONFIRMED BY PLEBESCITE. HE SAID HE COULD SEE THE POSSIBILITY OF THIRD NATION PEACE KEEPING FORCES, BUT HE ASKED WHERE WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT (WSLF) FORCES THEMSELVES COULD WITHDRAW IN THE EVENT OF AN AGREED DISENGAGEMENT, ADDING THAT THEY INHABIT THE AREA; THEY CANNOT GO ANYWHERE ELSE SAVE AS REFUGEES. HE SAID THAT SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF, HE COULD NOT ENVISAGE ANY SETTLEMENT THAT DID NOT RECOGNIZE SELF-DETERMINATION. THE MINISTER SAID THAT HE HIMSELF WAS AN OGENDENI, HE GREW UP THERE, AND LATER WENT TO ETHIOPIAN SCHOOLS, AND KNOWS AND SPEAKS AMHARIC. HE COULD NOT BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE ANYTHING LESS THAN A COMPLETE DECIMATION OF SOMALIS IN THE OGADEN WERE THE ETHIOPIANS ALLOWED BACK IN WITH POLICE POWERS. HE THOUGHT OGADENIS WOULD PREFER TO DIE FIGHTING. MOREOVER, HE SAID, WERE THE ETHIOPIANS ALLOWED TO REOCCUPY THE OGADEN, THE GSDR COULD BE OVERWHELMED WITH AS MANY AS TWO MILLION REFUGEES, A PROBLEM THE GSDR SIMPLY COULD NOT HANDLE. NO SOMALI GOVERNMENT COULD DO THAT, NOR COULD ANY SOMALI GOVT ORDER THE WSLF TO RETREAT, THE MINISTER CONTINUED. HE SAID AN AUTONOMOUS OGADEN UNDER ETHIOPIAN SOVEREIGNTY HAD BEEN URGED ON THE GSDR BY THE SOVIETS AND FIDEL NASTRO LAST SPRING AND SUMMER, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOGADI 00197 010725Z

AND ULTIMATELY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SPLIT WITH THE USSR. THE MINISTER FINALLY CONCLUDED THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY ORGANIZED DISCUSSION WITHIN THE GSDR ON THE POSSIBLE SHAPE OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

3. IN A SECOND CONVERSATION ON JAN. 30, FRENCH AMBASSADOR CLAUDE MANTEL REPORTED HE HAD PRESENTED HIS GOVERNMENT'S NEGATIVE ANSWER TO PRESIDENT SIAD'S JAN. 16 BID TO THE WESTERN POWERS FOR ARMED ASSISTANCE. MANTEL URGED A COURSE OF NEGOTIATION ON PRESIDENT SIAD. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR SAID IT WAS A DIFFICULT MEETING WITH THE SOMALI LEADER UNRECEPTIVE TO THE SUGGESTION MANTEL ADVANCED.

4. IN PUBLIC REMARKS YESTERDAY, JAN. 30, THE SOMALI PRESIDENT ASSERTED THAT THE WESTERN COUNTRIES MUST NOT BE INDIFFERENT TO THE HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT WHICH IS WORSENING DAY BY DAY. SIAD ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO OFFER ALL ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING THE CONFLICT PEACEFULLY AND JUSTLY.

5. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY SEES NO MORE PROGRESS ON THE SOMALI SIDE IN DEFINING THE TERMS OF NEGOTIATED SETTLE-

MENT THAN WAS APPARENT TWO WEEKS AGO. IN FACT, THERE
SEEMS TO BE A RELUCTANCE TO ADDRESS THE TOPIC. SIAD'S
GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE CONCLUDED IT CANNOT BE A PARTY TO
A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT ON ANYTHING BUT ITS OWN TERMS,
WHICH BY DEFINITION ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO ETHIOPIA. IT
MAY TAKE A SHARP MILITARY REVERSAL TO MODIFY THAT CONCLUSION.
VOUGHT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOGADI00197
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780048-0050
Format: TEL
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978014/aaaaacsh.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0018c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOGADISCIO 113
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3739278
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUED RELUCTANCE TO DEFINE TERMS OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT
TAGS: PBOR, SO, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0018c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014